

House News



Georgia House of Representatives Staff

June 2005

Remembering our own on Memorial Day

Born and raised on a farm in Northern Spalding County during the depression, Representative Yates claims they didn't know they were poor until the government told them. He was able to attend high school on a bond grant, which he had to walk 3 miles to each day before graduating in 1938. He and 3 of his 4 brothers were all actually in WWII; 2 were prisoners of war and one was hospitalized, but they all came back home afterwards. Representative Yates himself was selected as a candidate for Officer School and became a second lieutenant in Field Artillery.

His military service included roles in several historical turning points, such as flying over the English Channel shortly after the invasion of Normandy, for which he was

awarded a medal. He also played a key role in opening up the battle lines at the Battle of the Bulge, the biggest battle of the war. Apparently, a tank was preventing the opening of battle lines, so Representative Yates flew over him, dropping a can of gasoline onto the tank. The enemy tanker mistakenly thought he was being fired upon and started moving which opened up the battle lines.

His long service to the state and military experience worked to Representative Yates' appointment as the Chairman of the Defense and Veterans Affairs Committee. He has always been a strong supporter of America and the military. Chairman Yates is a member of the Voice of the Veterans, an organization that speaks to children about patriotism.

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Featured Story

This month's featured story is a tribute to Representative John Yates.

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CAN YOU GUESS WHO THIS IS?

The back page will tell you who it is!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



JUNE

Janet Jenkins	June 9
Lucia Hames	June 13
Sheila Gove	June 20
Eva Farrill	June 24
Lynda Nations	June 29
Jean Shupe	June 30

I'm at an age when my back goes out more
than I do.

- PHYLLIS DILLER

From the Chief-of-Staff

As the summer months and the summer heat begin to bear down on us, I hope that everyone has the opportunity to take some time off and



enjoy the nice weather. Of course, with everyone taking some time off, those of us not currently on vacation will have a few additional responsibilities. After all, part of being a family is helping out when needed and I certainly like to think of us as family around here. So I want to thank you in advance for

helping out when your colleagues are taking a few days off and for pitching in to make sure that our legislative offices continue to provide the highest level of customer service to Georgians.



Employee Spotlight!

DELANE ROBERTS HOUSE DEFENSE & VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SECRETARY

What can you say about a House staff member who has probably worked for as many members as anyone else at the Capitol? Beginning her service for the state, Delane was hired by former Speaker of the House, Tom Murphy, straight out of college in January 1993. She first began as a secretary in an eight member suite in the L.O.B.

In 1999, Delane was selected to be a committee secretary for the House Transportation, Journals, and Interstate Cooperation committees. Soon after, she also inherited the Public Safety and Governmental Affairs committees. Being a part of so many different aspects of the legislative process, dealing with so many different types of legislation, she found herself in the middle of some of the most important pieces of legislation in the past decade.

In her first session as a committee secretary, then Governor Roy Barnes introduced the bill that created the Georgia Rural Transportation Authority, and of course it was assigned to her committee. Delane remembers that not only was it one of the most important bills of that session, it was also one of the most publicized. New to being directly involved in the committee process, it was a learning experience for her. Having to deal not only with her

member's constituent services, but also having to get her job done with a mirage of media reporters and lobbyists who seemed to be constantly coming in and out of the office. What a learning experience indeed.

With the coming of a new leadership, a new majority, Delane was unsure of exactly where her place in the legislature would be. Her uncertainty disappeared when Rep. John Yates was selected to be the Chairman of the House Defense & Veterans Affairs committee. Maybe it was just luck, or maybe it was divine intervention, but Rep. Yates eventually found his way to selecting one of the most experienced secretaries that the House has to offer. Experience that is well needed, when you are working with one of the longest serving members of the House. "I enjoy working with a member of the House that is as knowledgeable and experienced as Rep. Yates," said Delane.

A native Georgian, a Bremen High School graduate, and a faithful employee of the Georgia House of Representatives, Delane Roberts has proved that by doing your job to the best of your ability, anyone can navigate their way through the halls of the Georgia Capitol.

Enjoy life. Think of all the women who passed up dessert on the Titanic. - Unknown

Mandarin Orange Cake

1 Box of either White or Yellow Cake Mix
1 large can Mandarin Oranges
Drain oranges then puree. Mix cake as directed - slightly less liquid to compensate for juice in oranges. Add oranges and mix well. Bake as directed. Cool
Icing:
1 12oz tub of whipped topping
1 med. can of crushed pineapple
1 3oz box of either vanilla or french vanilla instant pudding
Mix whipped topping thoroughly with instant pudding, add pineapple and continue to mix until mixed throughout. Spread on cool cake.

Recipe courtesy of
ALVA INMAN

Did You Know...

Elinor Turner will be retiring July 1, 2005?

Jan Brinegar's last day with the House is June 24, 2005?

Bill Bahr is a member of an Irish Dance Team?

When not working on sight and sound for the House, Bill can be found dancing on stage or in the Drake Studio of Irish Dance. For those unfamiliar with the genre, Irish Step Dancing is of the type made popular by Michael Flatley in Riverdance and Lord of the Dance.

Medal award winners, Bill and his wife Dianna, compete in the southeastern Feis Circuit and perform in pubs and at local events through out the year with their fellow dancers from the Drake Studio.

"Its a rigorous form of dancing and mentally challenging," according to Bill. "I have built a stage at home and we try to practice for an hour and a half at least five nights a week.

Bill most recently performed at the annual Celtic Festival and is pictured in the May 26 -June 1 issue of Creative Loafing.

"Soft shoe is balletic, demanding, and makes for a well rounded dancer," Bill said. "But I really prefer hard-shoe and the steps that you see in the shows."

"I play drums, so making rhythm with my feet comes naturally."

Bill is also an avid foil and epee fencer.

p.s. - if you have any questions about Irish Step Dancing give Bill a call. He would love to share his knowledge with you!



Talmadge James and her family sponsored a child from Lesotho South Africa?

Teboho Monare was only three when Talmadge picked his photo out from thousands because he had the same birthday as her husband and grandmother. Talmadge and her family got very close and attached to little Teboho for a full year. With their help and support, Teboho and his family were moved to an area outside of the World Vision's sponsoring area. Talmadge was extremely hurt when she lost contact with Teboho, but World Vision assured them that the move was a sign that his conditions would be better. She hopes to sponsor another child soon through World Vision. She says that she will treasure his letters always and still carries his photo in her wallet. Her story has made me realize that the money does go to help the children and I am going to check into sponsoring myself. Thanks Talmadge for sharing such a touching story!

Words of Wisdom...

Sheila Gove
House Research

Sheila began her career on staff with the House Research Office in 1987, but this December will actually be her 27th year as an employee with the State of Georgia. Her first job with the state was as a clerk with the Department of Education. Six months after the legislature had created the House Research Office, Sheila was hired as an office manager. What is most significant about the office and job at that time is that the office only had one computer by 1989. Before search engines and the internet were invented, success in the Research office meant a strong work ethic.

When asked what "Words of Wisdom" she would give to someone just starting on staff for the House, she simply but profoundly stated, "To do your job well, and to do it right, you have to have a willingness to do the job. You have to do what needs to be done. There are no job descriptions here. Either you can or you have to learn to adapt, be willing to adapt, and most importantly go above and beyond the call of duty in your job."

This advice has certainly worked for Sheila; now make it work for you.

A Fresh Face...

Abbey Shockley
House Communications

Born in Ottumwa, Iowa, in 1983, the trip to the Georgia State Capitol for Abbey Shockley was a long distance one with stops in Kansas and Minnesota before her family finally settled down in Lawrenceville, Georgia. Her father was a mechanical engineer for Hormel Foods, and her mother spent most of her time raising Abbey and her two sisters, Amanda and Cassie.

A recent graduate of Georgia College and State University, Abbey has joined the Communications Office of the Georgia House of Representatives. She was most recently an intern for the House during the 2005 session. Upon first attending GCSU, Abbey chose to major in Psychology, but it was after her freshman Political Science course, she was hooked into government and politics. When asked who influenced her decision to be more involved in the governmental process she said, "My political science professor, Kathleen Martin, probably had the greatest impact on my decision to work in government. She was able to show me how important government is to our society, and even a young person like myself. She is one reason that I feel like I would like to become a school teacher in future, and teach social studies to young people."

Whether or not Abbey becomes a teacher in the future is still yet to be seen, but it is nice to know that someone who could be educating our children wants to gain real world experience before entering the classroom. Knowledge of course is achieved through study, but wisdom is gained through time.

Credit Union News!

eStatements & eChecks – The FREE, Easy, Safe & Really Fast way to view your SECU account statements and check images!

eStatements* and eChecks are the newer and faster way to receive your statements and check images from State Employees Credit Union. Sign up today at www.secuga.org and you can:

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- View canceled check images listed on your statement
- Reduce your mail and paperwork
- Save your statements to your computer or

- a CD for easy financial organization
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*Members that choose not to take advantage of e-statements will still receive a paper statement free of charge; however these statements will arrive much later than an eStatement can.

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Educate yourself!

WEB WATCH

What is the best way for a member of the general public to find out who their State Representative is after 5:00pm or on the weekend? The answer is simply two clicks with a mouse.

If you haven't notice, there is a new House website that is up and running, and it has taken on a life of its own. "The Virtual Office" of the Georgia House of Representatives now provides almost every piece of necessary contact information for Members, communications, research, and publications.

If people want to find out who their State Representative is, they can simply visit www.legis.state.ga.us, and then click

on the HOUSE icon. On the banner, directly underneath the picture of the Gold Dome, you will find the REPRESENTATIVES website link. Then simply click on the icon FIND YOUR REPRESENTATIVE.

Not only will this site let you find out who is your State Representative, it will also tell you who your State Senator and U.S. Congressman are. Sometimes it will go so far as to tell you who your local government commissioners and councilman are.

Each and every month we will bring you another service that is available on the website, so continue to check back with us, and remember to pass along this information to your constituents, co-workers, and friends.

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Isn't this the cutest picture of **Ward Lamb** and the original UGA? The photo was made in October of 1956. Ward had just turned six years old!



We're on the Web!

www.legis.state.ga.us/legis/2005_06/house/index.htm